MDOT Environmental Policy Statement

Maryland Department of Transportation and the affiliated Maryland Transportation Agencies (MDOT) believe that protection of the environment and stewardship of natural resources are essential elements of its mission. MDOT is committed to environmental compliance, continuous improvement in environmental performance and effective interaction with its employees, other government agencies, and the community.

Management Commitment

MDOT is committed to providing the leadership, systems, and resources necessary to ensure that the objectives of this policy are achieved. MDOT is committed to promoting a culture where environmental protection and compliance is an integral part of our management practices.

Employee Commitment

All MDOT employees are responsible and accountable for meeting their assigned roles and achieving objectives regarding environmental performance.

Compliance

MDOT will maintain compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations.

Planning

MDOT will incorporate environmental performance goals into planning processes to ensure that regulatory requirements, pollution prevention and opportunities to minimize life cycle impacts are addressed in program and project management.

Stewardship

MDOT will responsibly manage environmental resources and minimize impacts of its activities on the environment through effective planning, project development, and operating and maintenance procedures.

Communication

MDOT will communicate its environmental policy and performance goals to employees and stakeholders, and will maintain open lines of communication about its environmental activities with the public.

Continuous Improvement

MDOT will strive for continuous improvement of its environmental performance through a program that includes training, periodic assessments, management review and implementation of initiatives

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MARYLAND
Smart, Green & Growing

"God gives us not only the intellect and imagination to harness nature but the intellect and compassion to protect and conserve it"

- Governor Martin O'Malley

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lieutenant Governor

**Maryland Department
of Transportation**

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Maryland Department of Transportation

Stewardship

Office of Environment

The Secretary's Office of Environment

The Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) Office of Environment provides leadership and guidance in the areas of environmental compliance, stewardship and sustainability to the Department's five transportation agencies — Maryland Aviation Administration, Maryland Transit Administration, Maryland Port Administration, Motor Vehicle Administration, State Highway Administration and the Maryland Transportation Authority.

The Office of Environment, in conjunction with the Office of Planning and Capital Programming (OPCP) is responsible for the department-wide development, implementation, oversight, coordination, and support for environmental programs and initiatives in these areas. MDOT is the only state DOT nationally to comprehensively encompass all modes of transportation within a single department. This facilitates the integrated management approach that is essential with environmental issues.

Environmental Programs:

Voluntary Self Audit Program - Environmental regulations apply to a broad range of transportation facility and operational management activities. MDOT has developed a Self-Audit Program to continually assess, correct, and improve operational practices that may impact the environment. This program helps ensure MDOT's compliance with all applicable federal, state and local regulations.
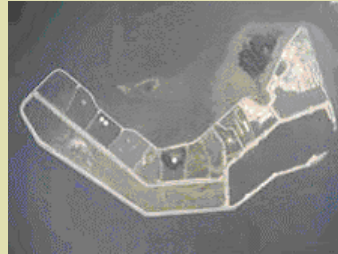
Environmental Management System - MDOT is in the process of developing Environmental Management Systems (EMS) across all of its transportation Modes. The EMS will provide a comprehensive, systems-based structural framework and organized process that is tailored to each transportation agency and be utilized to identify specific compliance needs and maintain regulatory compliance on an ongoing basis.

Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability - The Secretary's Office of Environment serves as liaison for interagency coordination between MDOT Modal Administrations and other state agencies to promote environmental stewardship and implement sustainable transportation practices. MDOT is a partner of the Maryland Smart Green and Growing Initiative. More information on this statewide initiative can be found at: www.green.maryland.gov.

Each modal administration and the Maryland Transportation Authority is committed to minimizing and mitigating project impacts; utilizing best management practices, and pursuing unique opportunities to improve the sustainability of the transportation system proactively beyond mandates.

Examples of proactive endeavors include:

- Integrated transportation and land use planning that incorporates transit oriented development.

- The use of 219 "New Flyer" buses, as well as new fuel-saving hybrid diesel-electric buses, equipped with particulate traps on the exhaust systems, catching up to 90% of all soot and harmful particles;

- The planting of wildflowers along Maryland highways that not only reduces mowing, and therefore air pollution, it also provides wildlife habitat.

- Incorporation of project and program elements to enhance protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay resources. One cutting-edge solution to address materials dredged from the Bay shipping channel has resulted in the restoration of the once vanishing Poplar Island now benefiting both wildlife and the recreational community.

- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification of the MDOT Headquarters building.

For more information on specific environmental stewardship initiatives at each Administration, visit the following websites:

Maryland Aviation Administration:
www.marylandaviation.com/content/environmental
Maryland Transportation Authority:
www.mdta.maryland.gov/
Maryland Port Administration:
www.marylandports.com/environment
Maryland Transit Administration:
www.mtagogreen.com
Motor Vehicle Administration:
http://www.mva.maryland.gov/
State Highway Administration:
www.marylandroads.com

Your Role:

The Maryland Department of Transportation encourages everyone to actively do their share in protecting the environment by using mass transit more often, combining trips or carpooling, and walking or biking when ever feasible. Participate in transportation and land use planning sessions in your community and lend a voice towards a sustainable future.

The natural environment is more than living organisms; it includes the critical supporting habitats and lifelines necessary to sustain the circle of life

Wild flowers are planted along state highways to provide wildlife habitat, enhance aesthetics, reduce mowing and in turn green house gas emissions.

MTA Light Rail offers an energy saving way to work.

Fueling of large commercial aircraft is monitored and possible spills are contained by a network of oil / water separators installed to protect the waters of the state.